

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
ON THE  
**SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE**  
FOR  
**1956**

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**T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health**

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1957



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## CONTENTS

page

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## STAFF

*Principal School Medical Officer:*

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

*Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:*

M. B. CLARKE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

*School Medical Officers:*

B. S. JARVIS, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

C. M. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

*Principal Dental Officer:*

D. N. MAXFIELD, L.D.S. (from 1st April)

*Dental Officers:*

D. N. MAXFIELD, L.D.S. (to 31st March)

E. G. O'SHEA, B.D.S. (part-time)

Miss M. MALCOLM, L.D.S. (part-time)

*Administrative Assistant:*

H. ALLEN LORD, B.A. (Admin.)

*Visiting Specialists:*F. BAUER, F.R.C.S. EDIN., D.L.O., *E.N.T. Consultant Surgeon*E. ALLAN, M.B., CH.B., *Ophthalmic Surgeon*F. C. DWYER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., M.CH.ORTH., *Orthopaedic Consultant Surgeon**School Nurses:*

Mrs. S. FOULDS

Mrs. M. M. OLSEN

Mrs. M. E. RICE

Miss E. C. JONES

*Dental Attendants:*

Miss B. BURNETT

Miss P. M. YATES

*Clerks:*

Miss D. GREEN (Clerk in Charge)

Miss D. BERNARD

Miss E. M. DUNFORD

Miss M. MCDERMOTT (to 24th March)

Miss A. D. BURNETT (from 2nd July)

## FOREWORD

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

BOOTLE.

August, 1957.

*To the Chairman and Members  
of the Education Committee.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the forty-ninth Annual Report on the health of the school children in Bootle.

During the year, 3,007 children were examined at the routine medical inspections; of these 43 children or 1.43 per cent. were classified as of poor general condition as compared with 0.65 per cent. of 3,719 reported at the corresponding examinations in 1955. This classification of general condition was introduced in 1947 when the number reported as of poor general condition was 6.44 per cent.; since that date there has, with slight exceptions, been a continuous improvement throughout the years. It is to be noted that in the corresponding period there has been an increase of 3,308 in the school population.

During the year, 35,111 examinations were made by the school nurses for cleanliness; in 946 instances or 2.6 per cent. of the examinations, uncleanliness was found. This figure compares favourably with the previous year when 5 per cent. or 1,430 instances of uncleanliness out of a total of 28,152 examinations were found.

The arrangements made for the examination of entrants to the courses of training for teaching and to the teaching profession in accordance with the terms of Circular 249 of the Ministry of Education as outlined in the report for 1954 were continued. During the year 45 such examinations were made.

There was an increase in the number of cases of the common infectious diseases notified in school children during the year. Scarlet fever showed a slight increase of 6 cases but the greatest increases were in measles and whooping cough. Measles had an increase of 423 cases; these occurred chiefly in the last quarter of the year and extended into 1957, while an increase of 49 in the number of cases of whooping cough notified occurred chiefly in the Spring quarter. It was not necessary to close any school or department during the year on account of infectious disease. No cases of diphtheria were reported during the year in which

359 children of school age received a complete course of inoculations and 692 previously inoculated children received a stimulating inoculation against this disease.

Four cases of poliomyelitis occurred in school children. Two of these were of the paralytic type and two non-paralytic. In accordance with Circular 2/56 of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, Administrative Memorandum No. 522, the parents of children born between 1947 and 1954 were offered vaccination against this disease, but only 72 children of school age were registered for vaccination. Of this number 11 had completed their inoculations by the end of the year.

Following on the report of the Medical Research Council on the protective vaccination against tuberculosis of school children by B.C.G., the Education Committee at their meeting in October decided to extend their present scheme to include children, aged 13 years, in accordance with Circular 14/56 of the Ministry of Health. It is hoped to commence these inoculations later in the year, consent having been received from the Ministry to the altered proposals in January, 1957.

The School Health Service continued to function satisfactorily throughout the whole year and there was close co-operation between the service, the general practitioners and the specialist services of the Regional Hospital Board, frequent full and comprehensive reports being received from the hospitals of investigations carried out on school children. Unfortunately, only one full-time Dental Officer was available throughout the year, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance given to the School Dental Service by the local dental practitioners who worked on a sessional basis.

In submitting this report, I would like to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Special Services (Education) Sub-Committee for their interest in the School Health Service, to the Director of Education and his staff, the teachers of the Borough, and the staff of my Department for their willing help and co-operation throughout the year.

T. R. ROBERTON,

*Principal School Medical Officer.*



## COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1956

Area of Bootle in acres (exclusive of river bed)—3,054.

Population of Borough—Registrar-General's estimate of population at 30th June, 1956—79,360.

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.** The following statement records the attendance position in January, 1957, and shows an increase of 532 on the combined rolls of the Primary and Secondary Schools as compared with the previous year.

					<i>Number</i>	<i>Mean No. on Rolls</i>	<i>Average Attendance</i>
<i>Primary Schools—</i>							
County	...	...	...	20	...	4790	4400
Voluntary	...	...	...	18	...	4584	4133
				38		9374	8533
<i>Secondary Schools—</i>							
County	...	...	...	7	...	3062	2843
Voluntary	...	...	...	6	...	1421	1274
				13		4483	4117
Mean No. on Rolls (all schools)						...	13,857

**COST.** The rateable value of the Borough as at 1st April, 1956, was £871,470.

The gross cost of medical inspection and treatment for the twelve months ended March 31st, 1956, was £14,574 compared with £13,911 for the preceding year. The Government Grant was approximately £8,330, sundry receipts totalled £690 and the net cost was £5,554 compared with £5,286 for the preceding year.



The cost under this head per child on the school rolls was 21s. 6d. gross, and 8s. 2d. net, and the cost in terms of a penny rate was 6.04d. gross, and 2.30d. net.

## MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

A statistical summary of the findings of medical inspection and of the kind of treatment obtained will be found in the Ministry of Education Returns at the end of this Report.

(1) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS. Periodic medical inspections were carried out in all schools with respect to the groups specified in paragraph 49 (2) of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, viz:—

- (a) every pupil admitted for the first time to a maintained school as soon as possible after the date of admission;
- (b) every pupil attending a maintained Primary School during the last year of attendance at such a school;
- (c) every pupil attending a maintained Secondary School during the last year of attendance at such a school.

During the year the number of inspections totalled 3,007, made up as follows:—Entrants 884, Second Age Group 1,168, and Third Age Group 921; other inspections 34.

(2) SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS. The number of children presented for special examination was 3,107, as compared with 3,697 in the preceding year; 3,089 of these were seen at Minor Ailments Clinics, while the remaining 18 were presented at schools in the course of routine visits.

(3) RE-EXAMINATIONS. 4,925 re-examinations of children, who on examination were referred for treatment or further observation, were made during the year, as compared with 6,614 during 1955; 3,268 of these were performed at the schools, and 1,657 at the School Medical Offices and Health Centre.

(4) MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS. In addition to the ordinary work of routine and special examinations and re-inspections undertaken during the year, the following work was carried out:—

Examination of:—

Children as to fitness for employment	...	...	136
Children for ascertainment of educational sub-normality	...	...	66
Other Children	...	...	63

In addition, the Director of Education was supplied with medical histories of 210 juvenile offenders. The following table shows the number of such reports supplied during the past five years:—

1956	...	...	210
1955	...	...	161
1954	...	...	180
1953	...	...	153
1952	...	...	170

A summary of the defects noted at both periodic and special examinations showed that 7,336 defects were referred for treatment or further observation.

The incidence of the commoner physical defects in children examined during periodic medical inspection was as follows:—unsatisfactory physical condition, 1.41 per cent.; squint, 2.9 per cent.; external eye disease, 2.3 per cent.; chronic tonsillitis and adenoids, 9.8 per cent.; other nose and throat conditions, 5.5 per cent.; anaemia, 0.2 per cent.; lung disease 6.0 per cent.; otorrhoea, 1.6 per cent.; other ear, 9.9 per cent.; enlarged cervical glands, 5.2 per cent.; defective vision, 22.0 per cent.; skin conditions, 7.1 per cent.; heart (cong. and func.), 3.4 per cent.; flat feet, 6.6 per cent.; posture, 2.9 per cent.; and other orthopaedic conditions, 7.4 per cent.

Children referred for treatment or further observation constituted 76.7 per cent. of the entrants examined, 77.8 per cent. of the primary leavers examined, and 71.3 per cent. of the third group examined, and 79.4 of the additional inspections.

(5) STUDENT TEACHERS. In accordance with Ministry of Education Circular 249, 45 medical examinations (male 15, female 30) were carried out of entrants to courses of training for teaching, and to the teaching profession.

### GENERAL CONDITION

It will be noted in Table I (D) on page 21 that classification of the children by "physical condition" has been substituted for the former classification; and this table shows that out of a total of 3,007 children examined, 1.43 per cent. were grouped as in unsatisfactory condition.

## COMPARATIVE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS

YEAR	BOYS					
	Infants		Primary Leavers		Secondary Leavers	
	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.
	cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.
1956 ... ..	110.9	20.1	137.5	33.1	157.7	47.5
1955 ... ..	109.3	19.6	137.6	33.0	156.1	45.9
1954 ... ..	110.2	20.2	136.9	32.4	156.6	47.0
1953 ... ..	110.7	20.1	137.1	32.1	158.6	48.3

  

YEAR	GIRLS					
	Infants		Primary Leavers		Secondary Leavers	
	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.	Av. Ht.	Av. Wt.
	cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.	cm.	kg.
1956 ... ..	110.7	19.9	138.2	33.9	155.5	48.5
1955 ... ..	109.0	19.0	139.0	33.5	154.2	47.6
1954 ... ..	109.4	19.7	136.1	32.3	154.4	48.5
1953 ... ..	109.9	19.5	137.0	32.3	155.0	47.7

COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS (IN KILOGRAMS) OF SCHOOL ENTRANTS IN 1955  
AND EARLIER YEARS

<i>Date of Examination</i>		Boys				Girls		
		<i>Number examined</i>		<i>Average Weight</i>		<i>Number examined</i>		<i>Average Weight</i>
1956	...	457	...	20.1	...	427	...	19.9
1955	...	727	...	19.6	...	769	...	19.0
1954	...	621	...	20.2	...	566	...	19.7
1953	...	899	...	20.1	...	856	...	19.5
1952	...	668	...	20.7	...	693	...	19.3
1951	...	804	...	20.6	...	744	...	19.9
1950	...	525	...	19.6	...	490	...	18.8
1949	...	574	...	19.8	...	493	...	18.8
1948	...	751	...	20.1	...	720	...	19.6
1947	...	472	...	19.4	...	470	...	18.9

## CLEANLINESS

The total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses for verminous conditions was 35,111, and there were 946 instances in which children were noted as unclean. Last year's figures were 28,152 and 1,430 respectively.

## CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

The number of children assisted by the Authority's Scheme under the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948, for January/December, 1956, is as under:—

TOTAL APPLICATIONS	...	592
ISSUES FREE OF COST	...	526 (includes 1 Special School)
„ one-third of cost	...	5 (includes 1 Special School)
„ two-thirds of cost	...	8 (includes 1 Special School)
„ FULL COST	...	14 (includes 7 Special Schools)
Referred to N.A.B.	...	39

In the period under review, seven cases of Part or Full Cost Repayment were taken to Court during the year.

This scheme, for provision of clothing, gives the opportunity, of which full advantage is taken, of close co-operation between the various agencies interested in the welfare of children. These agencies are co-ordinated by the Medical Officer of Health who acts as Co-ordinating Officer in connection with children who may be neglected in their own homes. In this capacity he is notified, at once, of any cases coming to the notice of the Education Department in which there is a possibility of neglect or ill treatment of children.

## MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS

The daily clinics for the treatment of minor ailments dealt with 2,642 defects, amongst which minor septic infections of the skin were the commonest conditions. The attendances numbered 9,693, excluding 74 of children below school age, as compared with 10,797 in 1955. 334 exclusion certificates were given, mainly on account of minor ailments but also on account of infectious diseases.

## SKIN DISEASES

As a result of the inspections at the Minor Ailments Clinics, 1,137 children, or 43 per cent. of the total number of children attending, were found to be suffering from infections of the skin. Details of these infections are given in Table IV on page 23.

### Scabies Clinic

The incidence of scabies among school children is shown in the following table:—

				<i>Cases found at Special Examinations</i>		<i>Cases found at Routine Inspections</i>
1956	...	...	...	19	...	7
1955	...	...	...	37	...	6
1954	...	...	...	23	...	2
1953	...	...	...	22	...	Nil
1952	...	...	...	10	...	Nil
1951	...	...	...	8	...	Nil
1950	...	...	...	9	...	Nil
1949	...	...	...	25	...	Nil
1948	...	...	...	36	...	4
1947	...	...	...	69	...	7

### VISION AND EYE DEFECTS

**VISION.** Entrants are not examined for defective vision at routine examinations, but during the year the other age groups were so examined, and 430 or 20.6 per cent. were found to have defective vision requiring further examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon. In addition, 1,486 eight-year-olds were tested with Snellen's Types by School Nurses and 144 were referred for examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

#### Ophthalmic Clinic

The number of new cases seen at the Clinic during 1956 was 520, and the total number of attendances was 2,155.

All children with glasses have their visual acuity tested by the School Ophthalmic Surgeon once a year, if circumstances permit, while the cases of high myopia receive full examination more frequently.

#### Squint

At routine examinations 78 cases of squint were found, and 8 cases were found among pupils specially referred for examination. 25 were operated on at St. Paul's Eye Hospital, Liverpool, and Bootle Hospital.

#### External Eye Diseases

Inflammatory conditions of the external eye were noted in 76 cases at periodic inspections, and in 219 cases at special inspections.

### DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT

The total number of cases dealt with in 1956 was 278 (this total included 10 infants below school age). The 268 school children included 23 cases of otorrhoea, 103 other ear defects, 91 of defects of nose and throat, and 32 of deafness; and the toddlers included 5 defects of nose and 1 tonsils and adenoids, 1 deafness and 3 other ear defects.

During the year, 20 consultative aural clinics were held by Mr. Bauer. 368 examinations were made (including 16 toddlers), and 90 cases referred to the special department of local hospitals.



### **Tonsils and Adenoids**

At periodic inspections during the past year, disease of both tonsils and adenoids was detected in 9.8 per cent. 36 cases are known to have received operative treatment as in-patients at local hospitals.

### **DENTAL SERVICE**

There has again been only one whole-time dentist available during the year, and it seems unlikely that this number will be increased, as newly qualified dentists appear to be going into private practice rather than into Local Authority service.

It is most noticeable that the caries rate in both the deciduous and permanent teeth of young children is on the increase. In this connection, it will be interesting to see the effect of water supply in those areas where the local authorities have adopted this experiment.

With the greatly increased population in the Netherton area, there is a real need for a new clinic to treat the children and priority classes in that part of the Borough.

A few cases of the less complex type of orthodontic treatment were undertaken, and forty children were supplied with dentures.

### **TUBERCULOSIS**

When considered necessary, the School Medical Officers refer children to the Chest Clinic for X-Ray. During the year one child of school age was found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

Residential treatment of tuberculous children of school age was provided during the year at the Liverpool Open-Air Hospital for Children.

### **CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPAEDICS**

There is no change to record in the arrangements described in former reports for the ascertainment and treatment of crippling defects.

#### **Orthopaedic Clinic**

Sessions are held at monthly intervals, with Mr. F. C. Dwyer as Consultant Surgeon and Mr. W. Ellis, Orthopaedic Registrar. Dr. M. B. Clarke has attended the sessions and also a representative from the Liverpool Child Welfare Association, thereby ensuring co-ordination in after-care.

Orthopaedic Surgeons paid 21 visits to the Clinic during the year, and examined 496 cases referred to them. Of the patients seen, 124 were discharged, while 322 were advised to remain under treatment and supervision; 48 cases were referred to hospital, and in the 2 remaining cases no treatment was considered necessary.

A Remedial Exercises Clinic is held each Saturday morning, under the direction of a School Nurse, mainly for the correction of flat feet and bad posture. The attendances during the year numbered 196.

### HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The definition of the various categories of handicapped pupils is set forth in paragraph 3 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1953, and the numbers in the Register at the end of the year are as follows:—

					<i>Boys ...</i>	<i>Girls ...</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a)	Blind ... ..	...	...	—	...	2 ...	2
(b)	Partially sighted	...	...	3	...	1 ...	4
(c)	Deaf ... ..	...	...	4	...	5 ...	9
(d)	Partially Deaf	...	...	7	...	5 ...	12
(e)	Educationally Sub-Normal	...	...	75	...	42 ...	117
(f)	Epileptic ... ..	...	...	—	...	1 ...	1
(g)	Maladjusted ... ..	...	...	4	...	2 ...	6
(h)	Physically Handicapped	...	...	16	...	14 ...	30
(i)	Speech Defect ... ..	...	...	—	...	1 ...	1
(j)	Delicate ... ..	...	...	1	...	1 ...	2
				<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
				110		74	184
				<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>

24 boys and 22 girls are attending Special Schools.

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

No school or department was closed on account of communicable disease during the year.

**SCARLET FEVER.** The number of cases notified in children of school age was 34, compared with 28 in 1955, 42 in 1954.

**DIPHTHERIA.** No case was notified in a child of school age as compared with 0 notified in 1955, and 1 in 1954.

**MEASLES.** 546 cases were notified amongst school children, as against 123 in 1955, and 253 in 1954.

**POLIOMYELITIS.** 4 cases occurred in children of school age; 2 were of the paralytic type and 2 non-paralytic.

**CHICKEN POX.** 4 cases were reported, as against 3 in 1955, and 6 in 1954.

**MUMPS.** 3 cases were reported, compared with 16 in 1955 and 4 in 1954.

**WHOOPING COUGH.** 98 cases were notified amongst school children, as compared with 49 in 1955, and 66 in 1954.

### Protection against Diphtheria

Immunisation of children as described in previous reports commenced in 1932, and during the year 1034 children under five years of age and 359 children of school age completed the course. Arrangements now operate whereby children already immunised are offered a third inoculation on entry into school in order to raise their immunity and 692 children were so treated during the year.



### NURSERY CLASSES

		<i>No. of new admissions in 1956</i>		<i>No. on roll 17/12/56</i>		<i>Average No. in Attendance Jan.-Dec. '56</i>
Linacre Nursery ...	...	20	...	19	...	17
St. Monica's Nursery	...	39	...	36	...	25
Salisbury Nursery	...	55	...	53	...	43
St. Mary's Nursery	...	41	...	33	...	24
Hawthorne Nursery	...	12	...	18	...	18
		<hr/> 164		<hr/> 159		<hr/> 127

The Nursery Classes in the Borough continue to provide facilities for children in the 3—5 age group. The conditions upon which acceptance of children to the Nursery are based have not altered, but discretion has been exercised in granting admission to cases outside the general policy.

Admission of children during the year 1955 outside the age range has resulted in a drop in the number of places available during 1956. The circumstances of the under age children accepted for admission have, however, been considered deserving enough to warrant their continued attendance at the Classes over a prolonged period.

The children, after a period in the Nursery, again prove by their physical and emotional development the value of the training received in the Classes.

Parents are in the main appreciative of the efforts made by the Education Committee to help them solve the particular problems with which they are faced through causes outside their control, e.g., bad housing conditions, illness of parents or children, retardation in the children, etc.

The Nurseries still offer training facilities for girls wishing to enter either the Nursery or Teaching professions.

### AFTER CARE

Arrangements for the after-care of children ascertained to be suffering from defects remained as described in previous reports, viz., verbal or written advice is given by the Medical Officer or School Nurse, together with re-inspection each term. In the course of their after-care work the School Nurses paid 1,990 visits to the homes to explain the need for treatment and the way in which it could be obtained. Action is also taken in giving supervision where necessary to children who have been in hospital. In this connection it is desired to acknowledge the co-operation of the Hospital Authorities, particularly the Medical Superintendent of Alder Hey Hospital, in forwarding reports on children discharged from hospital.

### PROVISION OF MEALS

The family circumstances of all children eligible to receive meals free of charge in Bootle Schools were reviewed in March, 1956, together with those of Bootle pupils attending Outside Grammar and Technical Schools, and were dealt with as under:—

Applications granted (for Bootle Schools)...	...	...	714
” ” (for Bootle Pupils in Outside Schools)			50
Outside Authority pupils on free meals in Bootle Schools			15
Applications overscale	...	...	59
Total dealt with for review			838

The total number of pupils eligible to receive meals free of charge in Bootle Schools at 31st December, 1956, was:—

918 in Bootle Schools per day;

69 Bootle pupils in Outside Schools per day.

During the year the following School Meals Premises were opened:—

<i>Kitchens</i>	<i>Opening Date</i>
Gloucester K.D.R. ... ..	16/4/56
St. George of England K.D.R. ... ..	1/10/56
<i>Dining Centres</i>	<i>Opening Date</i>
Princess Royal C.P. School ... ..	16/4/56
Holy Ghost R.C. Infants' ... ..	10/5/56
Holy Ghost R.C. Juniors' ... ..	10/5/56
Cambridge Dining Centre ... ..	4/9/56
Sterrix Infants' ... ..	4/9/56

Cambridge Central Kitchen was closed at the end of the Spring Term for conversion into a dining centre to serve Balliol Secondary Modern School.

MEALS FREE OF CHARGE. The number of School Dinners supplied was:—

Free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	152,618
Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	520,430
								673,048

MILK. The number of one-third pint bottles provided during the period under review was 2,291,709.

The number of individual children supplied with meals and milk on a normal day in October, 1956, was:—

Meals—Free	...	...	...	...	...	...	739
Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,786
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,525
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,264

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**GENERAL.** Fundamental changes in the approach to Physical Education have been taking place during the last decade and are not yet complete. Traditional methods and beliefs are being challenged and a new technique is gradually taking shape. Briefly, "systems" presented in lesson form to suit the "average child" are giving way to greater emphasis on pupil/teacher relationships and to improvement in the environment in which they react. Children are encouraged to experience, experiment and create according to "age, aptitude and ability." Teachers are being asked to frame their activities, not on a preconceived idea of teaching specific exercises, but on observation of what satisfies the physical and emotional needs of the growing, moving child. This change of outlook calls for much more thought, flexibility and ingenuity on the teacher's part and usually results in a more enthusiastic response by the child.

**TEACHERS' COURSES.** Acceptance of a new approach is necessarily—and advisedly—slow. Over the last few years a series of demonstration/discussions—some addressed by members of Her Majesty's Inspectorate—have stimulated zeal and interest in the schools. This year, in conjunction with Division 12 of Lancashire County, the following sessions were held:

Physical Education ... Primary Stage ... Men and Women ...	4 sessions
Physical Education ... Senior Boys ... Men ... ..	1 Session
Country Dancing ... General ... .. Men and Women ...	4 Sessions
Football Coaching ... F.A. Methods ... Men ... ..	4 Sessions
Swimming ... .. A.S.A. Methods Men and Women ...	3 Sessions

In all, about 400 teachers attended the 16 meetings giving an average of 25 present at each session.

**ACCOMMODATION.** Quality in physical education depends not only on the knowledge and skill of the teacher but also on the environment available. Progress in the provision of better accommodation and equipment during the last few years has been substantial but more apparatus is needed in the older primary schools. Gymnasias built recently reflect the latest ideas in layout, and some of the older secondary school buildings have not been neglected. In the Netherton area provision for P.E. in its widest sense at primary and secondary level promises to be second to

none. Education in the use of new amenities is often necessary. Tactful pioneering work in personal hygiene is being carried out. Economic conditions and the advance of the social services since 1938 are evident in the increased height and weight, better clothing and general well-being of the children.

**SWIMMING.** Swimming instruction has long figured prominently in the scheme of physical education. The programme continued winter and summer, and additional transport was provided for the Netherton schools. Still greater demand for transport will arise until Baths accommodation is provided in the new area. Justification of the Committee's policy—winter swimming, more professional instruction, and transport—is evident in a comparison of 1938 and 1956 results. In 1938, with three plunges, baths closed from October to March and no special transport, the total awards were 635. In 1956, with two plunges available all the year, 2,471 awards were recorded as follows:—

		<i>Committee Awards thro' Schools S.A.</i>		<i>R.L.S.S. and A.S.A. Awards</i>		<i>Total</i>	
Boys	...	...	1,696	...	117	...	1,813
Girls	...	...	593	...	65	...	658
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		2,289		182		2,471	
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

An aggregate total of 2,471 awards is the highest yet attained and reflects the enthusiasm of teachers, instructors and children.

The Schools' Swimming Association was again represented at County, Divisional and National levels. Four boys were selected to swim for Lancashire against Cheshire; one boy swam for Lancashire in an all-conquering team against a combined Irish team in Dublin; and two boys figured in the English Schools National Championship.

The usual programme of inter-school galas was carried out and several schools organised their own swimming events. An experiment was made with the "Midlothian" intensive method of instruction. Conclusions were that the scheme was effective and could be used by schools near the baths, but that it was not suitable for general application. Winners of the Police Cup for Life Saving were St. Winefride's.



OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. No factual report would be complete without reference to the voluntary work in physical and social education, undertaken by many teachers, either in association or individually, in "club" activities at their respective schools. Inter-school and inter-town competitions flourished in Football, Rugby, Cricket, Hockey, Netball, Tennis, Athletics, Swimming, Badminton and Basket-Ball, whilst a number of minor activities centred round individual schools. Much of this work has a carry-over value into adult life and contacts made with local clubs, e.g., in Cricket and Swimming, are invaluable. The Committee has always been sympathetic to requests for the use of facilities for the extension of out-of-school activities. With the increase in the numbers of boys and girls of secondary school age, it would be desirable to consider ways of mobilising all the recreative resources of the Borough so that school-leavers would be familiar with them before they entered the adult-world.

In general, satisfactory progress was made, and solid preparation for future development undertaken.

F. M. DURRANT,

*Organiser of Physical Education.*

## EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

126 boys desiring employment as messenger boys were examined, and certificates were granted in all but 7 cases. These interviews gave opportunity to advise on faults in hygiene, particularly as regards care of the teeth, and to obtain treatment of physical defects. Three certificates for entertainers (3 girls) were granted.

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956**

**TABLE I**

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED  
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING  
SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

**A.—Periodic Medical Inspections**

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants ...	...	...	...	...	...	884
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1,168
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	921
Total	...	...	...	...	...	2,973

Number of other Periodic Inspections ... 34

Grand Total ... 3,007

**B.—Other Inspections**

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	3,372
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	4,925
Total	...	...	...	...	...	8,297

**C.—Pupils found to require Treatment**

<i>Group</i>	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i>	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIa</i>	<i>Total individual pupils</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants ...	8	258	266
Second Age Group	224	259	430
Third Age Group	197	187	332
Total (prescribed groups)	429	704	1028
Other Periodic Inspections	1	9	10
Grand Total	430	713	1038

**D.—Classification of the Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected in the age groups recorded in Table I. A.**

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A Satisfactory		B Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants ... ..	884	866	97.96	18	2.04
Second Age Group ...	1168	1156	98.97	12	1.03
Third Age Group ...	921	909	98.70	12	1.30
Other Periodic Inspections... ..	34	33	97.06	1	2.94
TOTAL ... ..	3007	2964	98.57	43	1.43

**TABLE II**

**INFESTATION WITH VERMIN**

- (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons ... .. 35,111
- (ii) Total number of *individual* pupils found to be infested ... 946
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) ... 2
- (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) ... 1



TABLE III

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year Ended 31st December, 1956

Defect Code (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	(A) PERIODIC INSPECTIONS			TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)		(B) SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		ENTRANTS		LEAVERS	Requiring treatment (7)	Requiring observation (8)	Requiring treatment (9)	Requiring observation (10)
		Requiring treatment (3)	Requiring observation (4)					
4	Skin ... ..	30	19	43	24	128	69	—
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision ... ..	8	2	197	45	430	118	—
6	<i>b.</i> Squint ... ..	41	20	7	—	54	24	1
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	16	3	9	13	49	27	1
	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing ... ..	10	13	21	12	43	38	2
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media ... ..	11	3	18	4	44	8	—
7	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	9	65	20	40	57	213	1
8	Nose or Throat ... ..	44	144	16	81	92	348	6
9	Speech... ..	7	31	—	9	11	54	2
10	Lymphatic Glands ... ..	8	53	1	9	10	100	9
11	Heart ... ..	4	26	—	27	6	87	5
12	Lungs ... ..	29	68	13	26	49	149	9
13	Developmental— <i>a.</i> Hernia... ..	1	3	1	—	3	4	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ... ..	21	62	2	17	33	121	—
	Orthopaedic— <i>a.</i> Posture ... ..	6	17	6	9	24	57	4
	<i>b.</i> Flat Foot ... ..	33	14	24	11	96	50	1
14	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	51	48	31	70	139	173	16
15	Nervous System— <i>a.</i> Epilepsy ... ..	1	2	—	—	1	5	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ... ..	3	30	1	15	7	77	13
	Psychological— <i>a.</i> Development ... ..	2	3	4	10	13	23	1
	<i>b.</i> Stability ... ..	—	3	—	2	—	8	2
16	Abdomen ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Other ... ..	211	146	154	67	610	385	36

TABLE IV

**TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY  
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)**

**GROUP 1. EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT**

				<i>Number of cases dealt with</i>		
				<i>by the Authority</i>		<i>otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of						
refraction and squint	...	...	...	345	...	13
Errors of Refraction (including squint)			...	1269	...	—
Total	...	...	...	1614	...	13
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were:						
Prescribed	...	...	...	525	...	—

**GROUP 2. DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR,  
NOSE AND THROAT**

				<i>Number of cases treated</i>		
				<i>by the Authority</i>		<i>otherwise</i>
Received operative treatment:—						
(a) for diseases of the ear	...	...	...	—	...	10
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis			...	—	...	36
(c) for other nose and throat condi-						
tions	...	...	...	—	...	2
Received other forms of treatment	...	...	...	299	...	127
Total	...	...	...	299	...	175

Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids:—

						<i>By Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
(a) in 1956	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
(b) in previous years	...	...	...	...	...	—	12

## GROUP 3. ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	<i>By Authority</i>		<i>Otherwise</i>	
Number of pupils known to have been treated at clinics or out-patient departments ...	39	...	245	

## GROUP 4. DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table II)

				<i>Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year</i>	
				<i>by the Authority</i>	<i>otherwise</i>
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	...	...	...	...	—
(ii) Body	...	...	...	...	7
Scabies	...	...	...	...	26
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	122
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	...	...	982
Total	...	...	...	...	1137

## GROUP 5. CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority	...	...	...	...	...	13
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

## GROUP 6. SPEECH THERAPY

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists under arrangements made by the Authority	...	...	...	...	...	12
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

## GROUP 7. OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments treated	...	...	...	...	1008
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	...	...	...	...	22
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. Vaccination	...	...	...	...	—

TABLE V

**DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY  
THE AUTHORITY**

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—						
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	...	7125
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	1260
Total (1)						8385
(2) Number found to require treatment						5940
(3) Number offered treatment						4777
(4) Number actually treated						1917
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment						2435
(6) Half-days devoted to Periodic (School) Inspection						49
Treatment						482
Total (6)						531
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth						976
Temporary Teeth						19
Total (7)						995
(8) Number of Teeth filled: Permanent Teeth						916
Temporary Teeth						19
Total (8)						935
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth						1003
Temporary Teeth						1330
Total (9)						2333
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction						1385

## (11) Orthodontics—

(a) Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	5
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year	...	...	2	
(c) Cases completed during the year	...	...	...	4
(d) Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	—	
(e) Pupils treated with appliances	...	...	...	5
(f) Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	5
(g) Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...	—
(h) Total attendances	...	...	...	45

(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures ... .. 40

## (13) Other operations—

Permanent teeth	...	...	...	...	...	308
Temporary teeth	...	...	...	...	...	—

### STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Officers	...	...	4
Dental Officers	...	...	1 whole-time; 1 vacancy
School Nurses	...	...	4
Dental Attendants	...	...	2

### LOCATION OF SCHOOL CLINICS

Clinic Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Knowsley Road, and at the School Medical Offices, Balliol Road.

### PARTICULARS OF CLINIC SESSIONS HELD

Examination and/or treatment	Health Centre Knowsley Road	School Medical Offices Balliol Road	
	By staff of local health authority	Under arrange- ments made with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board	By staff of local health authority
A. Minor ailment and other non-specialist examina- tion or treatment ... ..	Daily a.m.	—	Daily a.m.
B. Dental ... ..	Daily	—	By appointment
C. Ophthalmic ... ..	—	—	Thrice weekly
D. Ear, Nose and Throat...	—	Fortnightly	—
E. Orthopaedic ... ..	—	Fortnightly	—

**HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS, Approved under Section 9 (5) of the Education Act, 1944 (OTHER THAN HOSPITAL SCHOOLS) or BOARDING IN BOARDING HOMES**

During the calendar year ended 31st December, 1956, handicapped pupils—	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Partially Deaf	Delicate	Physically Handicapped	Educationally Sub-Normal	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Total (1)–(9)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
A. newly placed in Special Schools or Boarding Homes	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	5
B. newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	11	3	—	15
On or about 31st January, 1957, number of handicapped pupils from the Authority's area—										
C. (i) on the registers of special schools as:										
(a) day pupils ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	5
(b) boarding pupils ...	2	2	8	10	—	4	14	1	—	41
(ii) on the registers of independent schools under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) boarded in Homes and not already included under (i) or (ii) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL C ... ..	2	2	9	10	—	5	17	1	—	46
D. being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944—										
(i) in hospitals... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) in other groups (e.g., units for spastics) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	7







